



## **DOE DIALOGUE | Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz**

June 17, 2014

### **INDIANA ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER UPDATES**

There are two updates we would like to bring to your attention:

#### **1. Public Survey for Draft ESEA Flexibility Plan:**

The Indiana Department of Education prior to June 30, 2014 will be submitting an extension request to the United States Education Department to extend for one year, through June 30, 2015, our flexibility from the requirements from No Child Left Behind.

“The elements in the ESEA Flexibility Waiver extension includes the state plans for the following three areas:

1. College-and-career ready standards and aligned assessments
2. Monitoring and support of schools
3. Plans for teacher and principal effectiveness

The state flexibility plan also includes in each of the three areas above elements of data collection, monitoring for full implementation, technical assistance and opportunity for family and community engagement. The extension request reflects plans in progress in each area as well as additional elements that are based on United States Dept. of Education feed back from IDOE August 2013 Part B monitoring.

At this time the Indiana Department of Education is seeking your comment and suggestions with regards to the plan areas. Beginning tomorrow, Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> after 1:00 PM please take time to go to our IDOE site link for feedback at <http://www.doe.in.gov/news/indiana-esea-flexibility-waiver>. On this site you will find draft versions of the plans for each of the areas listed above, and a location for feedback. This feedback tool will remain open until June 24<sup>th</sup> at noon.

Thank you in advance for your input and suggestions.

2. Communications from Governor Spence' s Office regarding the Indiana ESEA Flexibility Waiver please click on the following link, [Governor's Letter to USED Regarding Indiana ESEA Flexibility](#)

### **Memorandum**

**MEMORANDUM:** [Resources to Implement New Health Laws](#) -- Several new health laws were passed in the 2014 legislative session. To assist schools with the implementation of these laws, several new documents have been created. All of these documents can be found on the Indiana Department of Education [Health Webpage](#).

**MEMORANDUM:** Fostering Connections Act, On May 30, 2014 The United States Department of Education and the United States Department of Health and Human Services sent a joint letter regarding the well-being of students involved in foster care. Indiana is supportive of the national goal of ongoing collaboration and cross-system coordination to support the outcomes of these

youth. The Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana Department of Child Services are committed to working together for the long-term well-being of our youth.

Per the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (Fostering Connections Act) the two agencies are obligated to work together. Over the past three years has been an increased collaboration between the two agencies. This partnership continues to increase in joint decisions and works together to support schools and the outcomes of foster youth. ([see memo](#))

Additional information and resources for [supporting foster youth](#) are available on the IDOE website. If there are any questions of assistance requested please contact: Anita Silverman (DCS) [anita.silverman@dcs.in.gov](mailto:anita.silverman@dcs.in.gov) or Cathy Danyluk (IDOE) [cdanyluk@doe.in.gov](mailto:cdanyluk@doe.in.gov)

**MEMORANDUM:** Accountability Reminder, The Indiana Department of Education has begun processing the 2013-14 school performance and improvement categories (Accountability A-F). Grades are expected to be finalized in early fall. Category placements will be assigned pursuant to 511 IAC 6.2-6 as adopted in 2012. Changes to the accountability system as recommended by the Accountability Review Panel will not take affect for the 2013-14 school year.

The information in the [attached memorandum](#) outlines the data components utilized in the calculation of Accountability A-F. Data accuracy is critical. Please coordinate with your STN Application Center site administrator, as well as any other relevant individuals at the school or corporation level, to ensure that data submitted for each collection are as accurate as possible. Data will be used as submitted for Accountability calculations. Reports are available in the Application Center as well as the Learning Connection for verification of data by school and corporation for every collection. For further information contact Amy Hortan at [ahorton@doe.in.gov](mailto:ahorton@doe.in.gov) or 317-234-5603 ([see memorandum](#))

**MEMORANDUM:** The Indiana Department of Education would like to gather information from all building principals to help guide future professional development. This [quick survey](#) will inform our work on the needs of building principals to better support their teachers and to help develop more effective and highly effective teachers. Please complete the survey by June 20, 2014. The survey can be found [here](#). If you have questions, please email Sarah Pies at [spies@doe.in.gov](mailto:spies@doe.in.gov).

**MEMORANDUM:** The submission of your 2014-15 Elementary Reading Plan is due by June 30, 2014. Pursuant to state regulations, the State Board of Education is required to request that all State Board accredited schools with kindergarten through grade 3 submit an annual Elementary Reading Plan. Reading Plans should be submitted [online](#). Principals must utilize their personal school/pin login to access DOE Online.

**MEMORANDUM:** ¼ The Department of Education would like to recognize all local educators selected as their 2014 district Teacher of the Year (TOY). Please send a press announcement or the educator's name, school and grade level/content area to [doecomm@doe.in.gov](mailto:doecomm@doe.in.gov). Feel free to send any local media coverage of your announcement as well. ***Don't forget*** that your local district TOY has until July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to [apply](#) to be next year's Indiana Teacher of the Year!

**MEMORANDUM:** The Indiana School Safety Academy is co-sponsoring a regional training on July 18 in Indianapolis titled "Teen Dating Violence/Sexual Assault: Creating a Safe Environment at School", presented by Chris Warren from the Domestic Violence Network and Colleen Yeakle from the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Participants at this training will receive one day of annual Safety Specialist re-certification for the 2014-2015 school year. Registration and additional information are available [online](#).

## **Information From Other Agencies**

**The Indiana Commission for Higher Education** has started accepting applications for the Improving Teacher Quality Partnership Program on June 12. It is estimated the Commission will receive approximately \$950,000 in federal funds for

competitive grant funds that bring together Indiana colleges with high-need school districts to support the professional development of teachers in core academic subjects.

The proposal deadline is Monday, July 14, 2014, with proposals due by 5 p.m. EST. Eligible applications must include partnerships consisting of: 1) a postsecondary school of education; 2) a postsecondary school of arts and sciences; and 3) a "high need" local education agency, as defined by the U.S. Department of Education. Applications are available at [www.che.in.gov](http://www.che.in.gov).

The Improving Teacher Quality Grant program is funded by and operates under the federal legislation known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. It is the largest federal initiative that supports professional development projects for teachers and principals, with a focus on high-need school districts and higher education institutions. For more information contact Ali Curtis at (317) 464-4404 ext.126 [ACurtis@che.in.gov](mailto:ACurtis@che.in.gov)

**Education Service Centers** will be offering RISE Teacher Evaluation Training between June 2014 and September 2014. Below are the scheduled dates and their registration sites:

- East Central ESC: June 25-26, 2014 (<http://www.ecesc.k12.in.us>)
- West Central ESC: July 21-22, 2014 (<http://www.wciesc.k12.in.us>)
- Wilson Center ESC: July 21-22, 2014 (<http://www.wesc.k12.in.us>)
- Region 8 ESC: July 23-24, 2014 (<http://www.r8esc.k12.in.us>)
- Northern Indiana ESC: July 29-31, 2014 (<http://www.niesc.k12.in.us>)
- Wabash Valley ESC: July 29-30, 2014 (<http://www.esc5.k12.in.us>)
- Southern Indiana ESC: August 27-28, 2014 (<http://www.siec.k12.in.us>)
- Northwest Indiana ESC: September 4-5, 2014 (<http://www.nwiesc.k12.in.us>)
- Central Indiana ESC: September 18-19, 2014 (<http://www.ciesc.k12.in.us>)

**Central Indiana Educational Services, (CIESC)** offers a variety of professional learning workshops, to view these events visit [www.ciesc.k12.in.us](http://www.ciesc.k12.in.us), view events calendar on right side bar or click on Services, then Professional Learning.

**An Indiana Leader in Online Driver Education** The CIESC Driver Education is looking to offer our online class statewide to Indiana Public Schools to use for their students. CIESC will offer 3 levels of school partnerships that will allow students to complete our online class while either having their home school provide the in-car lessons or allowing CIESC to provide these lesson. For more information about this service and how this could benefit your district, please email Sam Ruff at [sruff@ciesc.k12.in.us](mailto:sruff@ciesc.k12.in.us). Click [HERE](#) for more information and the Driver Education Flyer or <http://bit.ly/1pcPXTs>

## Legislative Updates

The Indiana Department of Education has released guidance on the following laws that were passed by the General Assembly. Please review the guidance, as well as all the newly passed education laws with the appropriate staff at your schools.

- [HEA 1063 - Charter School Compacts](#)
- [HEA 1290 - Health of Student Athletes](#)
- [SEA 114 - Excused Absences from School for State Fair Matters](#)
- [SEA 222 - Student Athlete Concussions](#)
- [SEA 229 - Firearm Matters](#)
- [SEA 245- Schools and Auto-injectable Epinephrine](#)

